WHY STUDY FINANCIAL ECONOMICS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE?

A degree in financial economics provides students with a strong foundation in economic theory and quantitative methods, along with coursework in the area of business finance. UMaine’s financial economics program provides a strong undergraduate background for graduate professional degrees in business, economics and law. This approach incorporates the fundamentals of economic theory in the areas of macroeconomics and monetary economics along with the applied analytical tools of finance and econometrics.

The School of Economics is small enough that we get to know our students and can help them achieve their goals, whether it is going to Europe or Australia for a semester or obtaining a summer internship with a specific type of company. Yet, at the same time, we are large enough to offer a rich assortment of core economics courses and electives, as well as other student-oriented activities.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A DEGREE IN FINANCIAL ECONOMICS?

Graduates are well-prepared for lucrative and exciting careers in the fields of finance and banking. Finance is the seventh best major according to kiplinger.com; mid-career median pay for a finance major is $85,400 and projected job growth is about 23 percent. Recent graduates have pursued careers in financial management in businesses and nonprofit organizations; commercial and investment banking; and insurance and brokerage. They are prepared to advance rapidly in their field. Employers regularly ask the School of Economics to recommend recent graduates for jobs.

OUR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

The B.A. in Financial Economics degree is designed for students who wish to pursue training in quantitative financial economics. These courses are complemented by other electives in business, liberal arts and sciences, mathematics and statistics. All of our upper-level courses are small in size, promoting lively classroom discussions. For students thinking about graduate school, our new 4 + 1 degree allows undergraduate students to accelerate their plans by beginning their graduate degree while still an undergraduate.

OCCUPATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Students are encouraged to join the Student Portfolio Investment Fund (SPIFFY). They also may participate in travel courses to China and Russia, and visits to the New York Stock Exchange and other financial institutions. The School of Economics encourages students to get involved in research projects, to study abroad or take part in summer internship programs — course credit is available for all of these options.

OUR GRADUATE PROGRAM

The B.A. in Financial Economics degree program provides a strong academic background for students who wish to pursue graduate studies. Most of our graduate financial economics students obtain teaching assistantships which provide free tuition, subsidized health insurance and a healthy stipend. Finance students can also get experience working with several finance officers in the area, and other students can obtain paid internships. Students are prepared for graduate studies in financial economics, economics, law, business, or other related fields.

OUR FACULTY

The School of Economics is home to many award-winning faculty who are recognized internationally for high-quality instruction and research. Faculty are innovative in their use of technology and other tools to enhance student participation and learning.
ABOUT UMAINE
The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state’s premier public university. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 73 countries. It currently enrolls 11,286 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. The University of Maine offers doctoral degrees in 35 fields, representing the humanities, sciences, engineering and education; master’s degrees in roughly 70 disciplines; 90 undergraduate majors and academic programs; and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about UMaine, visit umaine.edu.

student learning. Several members of the department have been involved in extensive study and analysis of best-practice teaching and assessment techniques. Our faculty take an active role in student advising with a shared goal of enhancing the student’s professional development. Faculty have active research programs yielding plenty of opportunities for independent research and paid research assistantships. Strong students can get their work published in academic journals and present their research at conferences. Our faculty are regularly called upon by federal and state officials, media outlets and government and nonprofit organizations to share their expertise. The faculty hold leadership and editorial board positions with professional associations and journals.

NEBHE PROGRAM
Applicants to this program who reside in Vermont are eligible for reduced tuition (in-state plus 50 percent) under the New England Regional Student Program, administered through the New England Board of Higher Education (nebhe.org).

HOW DO I APPLY?
Visit umaine.edu for an application, as well as information about academics and life at UMaine.

explore
Bachelor of Arts in Financial Economics
Master of Arts in Financial Economics

"The financial economics program has been a wonderful experience. The blending of Economics and Finance has provided the educational framework to build a truly successful career in either field. Faculty members are highly experienced and this translates to a very productive lecturing atmosphere. This, combined with the School of Economics research assistantship opportunities, which provide hands on experience with research and teaching, make the FIE program an opportunity not to be missed."

— Daniel Barrett, Class of 2015

The University of Maine does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, including transgender status and gender expression, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status in employment, education, and all other programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies: Director, Office of Equal Opportunity, 101 North Stevens Hall, 181.1.226, eoinfo@umit.maine.edu.